



FOREIGN NEWS.

GREAT BRITAIN.

THE TIMES ON AMERICAN FINANCES.

LONDON, Wednesday, Dec. 8, 1869.

The Times, in an article on American finances, says: "The fact that repudiation has been practiced by all the States except Massachusetts, associated with the theory which is widely obtaining in the Union that gold debts may be paid in paper, injures American securities. Offers of conversion will arouse distrust and defer success."

THE NEWS ON THE ALABAMA CLAIMS—MR. BOUTWELL'S PLAN.

The Daily News, commenting on Gen. Grant's statement of the Alabama question in his message, infers that the Americans want indemnity for their feelings rather than for their trade or pockets. This may be given. Diplomacy may oil this international friction and remove a sentimental grievance without compromising British interests or pride. The continental press generally applaud Secretary Boutwell's plan for the resumption of specie payments.

THE BISHOP OF EXETER—MR. PEABODY'S REMAINS.

The appointment of the Rev. Dr. Temple as Bishop of Exeter has been confirmed, notwithstanding the protests and arguments made against it. It is reported that the United States steamer Plymouth will not accompany the remains of George Peabody to America, but will return to the Mediterranean.

THE FRENCH TREATY—ENGLAND'S REFUSAL TO MODIFY.

LONDON, Wednesday, Dec. 8, 1869.

The English Ministry have refused to accept the modifications of the treaty of commerce between England and France, proposed by the latter.

FRANCE.

SPEECH OF MINISTER FORCADE—THE GOVERNMENT SUSTAINED.

In the Corps Legislatif to-day, M. Forcade de la Roquette, Minister of the Interior, made a speech in favor of the verification of the election of M. Dreole, a Government candidate for the Corps. He declared that the Government defended the country against evil doctrines, and the country in return defended it against evil doctrines. He concluded by assuring the Deputies that the Government wished to establish liberty, but with prudence and firmness. The speech of the Ministers was warmly applauded. The right of M. Dreole to a seat was sustained by a vote of 171 affirmatives to 77 negatives.

VALUE OF AN AMERICAN PROMISE.

PARIS, Wednesday, Dec. 8, 1869.

The *Siecle* of this city, in its issue to-day, prints a large portion of the report of the Secretary of the American Treasury, received by Cable, and in its comments thereon says: "An American promise is equivalent to its fulfillment."

Gen. N. P. Banks has arrived in this city.

BREST, Wednesday, Dec. 8, 1869.

The steamship Lafayette of the General Transatlantic Company's line arrived here at 11 o'clock this forenoon.

THE ECUMENICAL COUNCIL.

ITS MAGNIFICENT OPENING—PROCESSION OF THE 700 BISHOPS.

ROME, Wednesday, Dec. 8, 1869.

The Ecumenical Council was opened to-day by Pope Pius IX. The weather was unfavorable, rain falling at intervals throughout the day; but enormous crowds filled the Vatican and lined the streets through which the members of the Council passed. The Pope followed by 700 bishops proceeded to the altar of the Council amid the ringing of bells and the thundering of cannon from the forts of St. Angelo and Mount Aventine. The Holy Father was in fine health. The galleries of the Hall of Council were occupied by the sovereigns and princes now in Rome, by the members of the Diplomatic corps, and other notables. The ceremonies excelled in grandeur and magnificence any that have taken place in Rome within the present century.

LONDON, Wednesday, Dec. 8, 1869.

No Power has a special representative at the Ecumenical Council.

SPAIN.

THE REPUBLICAN PRISONERS.

MADRID, Wednesday, Dec. 8, 1869.

The Republicans have appointed a committee to investigate the cases of those Republicans who are to be tried for their participation in the recent insurrection.

AUSTRIA AND PRUSSIA.

THE PRINCE OF MONTENEGRO'S PROTEST—PROSPECTS OF A QUARREL.

PARIS, Wednesday, Dec. 8, 1869.

The Prince of Montenegro has protested against the intention of Austria to occupy his territory with troops, and the Prussian Government sustains Montenegro.

THE SUZ CANAL.

LONDON, Wednesday, Dec. 8, 1869.

Shallow iron steamships are being built on the Tyne for the navigation of the Suez Canal. Mr. Ashbury, who sailed through the canal in his yacht *Gambria*, writes that after taking careful soundings, he is of the opinion that no vessel drawing over 19 feet of water can pass through the canal.

ITALY.

FLORENCE, Wednesday, Dec. 8, 1869.

The Congress of Deists has assembled in Naples.

CUBA.

ATTEMPT TO BURN A TOWN—MARCH ON PUERTO PRINCIPLE.

HAVANA, Dec. 8.—An attempt was lately made to burn the town of Jun, but it was frustrated. Many persons suspected of complicity in the plot have been arrested. The troops from Espiritu Santo are marching toward Puerto Principe. It is supposed the intention of the troops is to destroy a rebel encampment planted on that road. The Gertrude is reported ashore on Roman Key. Gen. Lesca has arrived in Havana sick.

THE ENGAGEMENTS ON SAN JOSE.

NUEVITAS, Nov. 26.—A Spanish officer has admitted the fact that the Catalans suffered a great rout at San Jose. At that point the Spaniards had a detachment 330 strong. On the 20th ult. Bernabé de Varona with eight or ten men approached, when the Spaniards started out, 30 of them in hot pursuit. Varona continued retreating until he had come to where the Cubans were posted, when his pursuers were all surrounded and taken prisoners. Not a man was lost by the Cubans. Varona, instead of ordering the prisoners to be shot, directed them to be sent to jail. After this feat of arms, he called his 400 men together and attacked San José. The Catalans were surprised, and at once threw out a white flag, at sight of which the insurgents ceased firing. Varona, supposing the Catalans intended to surrender, went forward to meet them, accompanied by four or five soldiers. Confiding in the flag of truce, and forgetting that the brave Augusto Arango lost his life by trusting in the word of honor of the Spaniards, Varona was startled when the Spanish commander gave orders to fire, and two of his party fell dead. The Cubans, justly incensed, immediately recommenced the combat. But time having been lost, and the Spaniards reinforced, Varona concluded to retire, carrying off his dead and wounded. The colonel commanding the Spanish forces was killed. The town is full of families from Puerto-Principe, and the hospitals crowded with sick. It has rained a month without cessation.

THE GUNBOAT QUESTION TO BE SETTLED—TACTICS OF THE SPANISH MINISTER—THE REPORTED PERUVIAN SURRENDER—EXPECTED RELEASE OF THE GUNBOATS.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—The Spanish gunboat ques-

tion is in course of settlement by diplomacy. It is known that they have been detained by Government on complaint of the Peruvian Minister, his representation being that they were designed to relieve other Spanish vessels which were to be employed in hostility against Peru. Hence the proceedings instituted to determine whether or not their neutrality laws were to be thus violated. But it is ascertained from an unofficial, but trustworthy, source that the Spanish Minister to-day presented a paper to the Secretary of State, denying the premises of the Peruvian Minister, and giving the pledge that the gunboats are not to be the means of carrying on a war with Peru or any other nation with which the United States are at peace.

WASHINGTON.

THE NOMINATIONS FOR CIRCUIT JUDGES—PROSPECTS OF THE EARLY ADMISSION OF VIRGINIA—THE NINTH CENSUS—INDIAN TREATIES TO BE ANNULLED—FOREIGN CROPS HEARD FROM.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Dec. 8, 1869.

Nominations for the 9 new U. S. Circuit Judges were sent to the Senate to-day. The selections are considered very good. Geo. F. Shepley for the First District, and Lewis H. Woodruff for the Second, were strongly recommended by the best men of their districts. William McKennan, for the Third District, is a relative of Mrs. Grant, and he received a strong endorsement from Western Pennsylvania, the eastern portion of the State being divided on ex-Attorney-General B. H. Brewster and Judge Russell Thayer. The appointment of Geo. A. Pearle, for the Fourth, and Geo. H. Yeaman for the Sixth District, was a surprise and disappointment to Maryland, and was elected Chief Justice of the State Circuit, comprising the Counties of Allegheny, Frederick, and Washington, in 1867, but when the Democrats got possession of the State he was legislated out of office. Questions of locality in some instances determined the selection, and notably so in the case of the Sixth Circuit. The President several times said, while the subject was under consideration, that he should, without hesitation, give this appointment to Judge R. M. Corwin of Ohio, were he from any other State, but that there was such a pressure against giving it to him that he was obliged to look elsewhere.

Judge Corwin, though an unwilling candidate, had the unsolicited support of almost the entire Cincinnati bar. Geo. H. Yeaman of Kentucky, who was finally appointed for this Circuit, was not heard of in this connection until very lately, and is said to owe his appointment to the influence of William H. Wadsworth of that State. Justice Swayne of the Supreme Court advocated the appointment of Judge Ballard, also of Kentucky, and an effort will be made to defeat the confirmation of Yeaman. Wm. B. Woods, nominated for the Fifth Circuit, is now a resident of Mobile, Ala., but hails from Ohio. He served through the war in Gen. Sherman's army, coming out as a full Brigadier-General. After the war he settled in Alabama, and engaged in the practice of his profession, and when that State was reconstructed he was elected to the State Senate on the Republican ticket. He is a Chancellor on the Bench, and a Senator of Alabama, and was backed up by most excellent recommendations. This Circuit, it was thought at one time, would be given to Thos. J. Durant of New-Orleans. Thomas Drummond, appointed to the Seventh Circuit, hails from Galena, Ill., and is now a District Judge in that State. He is a warm personal friend of Gen. Grant. Lorenzo Sawyer, in the Ninth Circuit, is at present a District Judge in California. The contest for the Eighth Circuit is so fiercely contested that the President is looking for a new man. The fight is between ex-Congressman Ben Loan of Missouri and Charles Dillon, a brother-in-law of ex-Congressman Price of Iowa. The defeat of Benedict and Hale in the New York Districts causes much chagrin among their friends.

The Committee of the Virginia Legislature, composed of Speaker Turner of the House, Owen of the Senate, and Messrs. Marshall, Boulden, Wood, McCall, Ashby, and Crenshaw of the House, paid a formal visit to the President to-day. Mr. Turner, on behalf of the Committee, addressed the President, stating that the Committee represented over two-thirds of the Legislature, and heartily tendered the Executive their thanks for the decided course taken in regard to the early admission of that State, and assured him that the Constitution, as adopted, would be carried out in good faith. Gen. Grant replied that he did not doubt the speedy admission of the State. Mr. Turner assured the President that the Committee had come to Washington to pay their respects to the Executive, and to have an interview with the Reconstruction Committee, and not to ask appointments to the Senate. President Grant then addressed the Committee, and had just finished his remarks when Mr. Turner, on behalf of the Committee, addressed the President, stating that the Committee represented over two-thirds of the Legislature, and heartily tendered the Executive their thanks for the decided course taken in regard to the early admission of that State, and assured him that the Constitution, as adopted, would be carried out in good faith. Gen. Grant replied that he did not doubt the speedy admission of the State. Mr. Turner assured the President that the Committee had come to Washington to pay their respects to the Executive, and to have an interview with the Reconstruction Committee, and not to ask appointments to the Senate.

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